

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FAUNA OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

No. 3.

---

Annotated List of Lizards from Wallal.

---

By L. GLAUERT, F.G.S., Communicated by permission of the  
Western Australian Museum.

---

Read 12th December, 1922.

The Trustees are indebted to the Perth Observatory party, under Mr. C. Nossiter, for an extensive series of lizards collected during the recent visit to Wallal.

Of the eleven species represented four are new to the Museum collection, one form being apparently as yet undescribed.

Professor Ross, who accompanied the American party, also formed a collection of reptiles for the Biological Department of the University, two of the lizards he obtained—*Diplodictylus ciliaris* and *Physignathus gilberti*—not being among the Perth Observatory series, are included in this paper to make the list as complete as possible. These two specimens have been presented to the Museum by Professor Nicholls.

The locality Wallal, which is at the southern end of the Ninety-mile Beach, had never been visited by collectors. The British Museum possesses many specimens from Nickol Bay and Roebourne, 250 miles to the west, collected by a Mr. du Boulay, and this Museum contains a few specimens from the Pilbara collected by Dr. J. B. Cleland and Mr. H. M. Giles nearly 20 years ago.

The Reptilian fauna of the Broome district, 150 miles east, is fairly well known, as numerous collectors have visited that area from time to time.

FAMILY GECKONIDAE.

*Rhynchoedura ornata*, Gunther (two specimens).—This lizard, which is found in Western Australia, Northern Territory, South Australia, and Queensland, was first collected at Nickol Bay by du Boulay. The type is in the British Museum.

This species is new to the W.A. Museum collection.

*Diplodactylus ciliaris*, Boulenger (one specimen).—This fairly common lizard occurs in Western Australia, Northern Territory, Queensland, and Central Australia. The type is from Port Darwin.

*Diplodactylus stenodactylus*, Boulenger (one specimen).—This lizard has a limited range, the type locality being Roebuck Bay. I collected two specimens under stones at Milly Milly, Murchison River, in May, 1922. It is therefore not surprising that the species should be found at Wallal.

*Peropus variegatus* (Dum. and Bibr.) (two specimens).—A fairly common species under the bark of dead trees and in crannies, known from Western Australia, Northern Territory, South Australia, and Queensland.

#### FAMILY PYGOPODIDAE.

*Lialis burtonii*, Gray (three specimens).—This species, known at Wallal as the "Spinifex Snake," is found throughout Australia. The type was collected at Port Essington by John Gilbert.

#### FAMILY AGAMIDAE.

*Amphibolurus maculatus* (Gray) (ten specimens).—Occurs in Western Australia, South Australia, and Central Australia; it appears to prefer the more arid parts.

*Amphibolurus reticulatus*, Boulenger (58 specimens).—This is undoubtedly the commonest lizard on the plains of the Pilbara, Murchison, etc.; it is also found in other parts of the State, in Central and South Australia. The most southerly record for Western Australia is York (Michaelsen and Hartmeyer).

The lizard varies considerably in colour and pattern. Specimens under observation at Milly Milly were noticed to change colour, they were dull and blackish when kept in darkness, but assumed bright and vivid markings when exposed to sunlight. A reddish orange patch on the throat of the male was very conspicuous at all times.

The sexes are dissimilar; at Milly Milly the blacks regarded them as distinct species, the males being known as "munarra" and the females as "chubbi."

*Physignathus gilberti*, Gray (one specimen).—The range of this species extends through the North of Western Australia to the Northern Territory. The type from Port Essington was presented to the British Museum by Sir J. Richardson.



## FAMILY VARANIDAE.

*Varanus brevicauda*, Boulenger (three specimens).—This species is confined to north Western Australia. As far as I can ascertain the specimens collected at Wallal are the first to be obtained since the types were collected at the Sherlock River and Nickol Bay by Dr. E. Clement.

## FAMILY SCINCIDAE.

*Tiliqua occipitalis*, Peters (four specimens).—The collection contained four specimens of a lizard closely resembling *T. occipitalis*, but differing from Boulenger's description in the British Museum Catalogue of Lizards, Vol. III., p. 147, in the following points:—Frontonasal not in contact with the frontal; anterior temporals slightly larger than the others; ear opening larger than the eye opening, with five lobules; dorsal scales on the body largest, laterals smaller than the centrals; fore limb slightly shorter than the head, hind limb almost equal to the fore limb. The colour markings are also different, the head is whitish with a dark brown almost black mark extending along the side from the eye to above the ear opening, the body is pale brown with ten white cross bands between the fore and hind limbs, the tail is darker than the body with ten narrow white bands; the outer side of the fore limb is dark brown, outer side of the hind limb dark brown with five or six narrow white cross bands; under surfaces whitish with indistinct dark markings on the throat.

Measurements of specimen R1013:—

Total length	..	..	310 mm.
Head	..	..	49 "
Width of head	..	..	38 "
Body	..	..	170 "
Fore limb	..	..	40 "
Hind limb	..	..	43 "
Tail	..	..	91 "

The name *T. O. nossiteri* is suggested for this variety.

*Lygosoma (Hinulia) ocelliferum*, Boulenger (three specimens).—This species is confined to Western Australia; the type is from Roebuck Bay. Drs. Michaelsen and Hartmeyer collected specimens at Beverley (two) and York (one). The three examples from Wallal are valuable additions to the Museum collection.

*Lygosoma (Hinulia) lesueuri*, Dum. and Bibr. (two specimens).—This, which is probably the commonest species of the genus, is found throughout Australia. Specimens are in the collection from Strelley River and Marble Bar.

*Ablepharus muelleri*, Fischer (one specimen).—The genus *Ablepharus* is represented in the collection by a specimen which agrees very closely with the description of *A. muelleri* although differing from that species in having four supraciliaries, instead of one only. A specimen, 9885, collected on the Strelley River by Dr. J. B. Cleland shows the same variation.